

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**REMARKS**

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated December 8, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 8, 2004. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-24 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 20 and 24 have been amended. Applicants submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter.

Claims 1, 3, 9, 11, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Ishikawa* (US 5,812,863). *Ishikawa* discloses an apparatus for correcting misspelling and incorrect usage of a word in which one or more candidates for replacing the misspelled word are displayed along with a usage identification. *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest a spell checking program which prompts a user to select assistance information that is available for user review. Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended to recite the feature of prompting a user to select assistance information associated with the correctly spelled word. Applicants submit that the cited reference fails to teach, show, or suggest the limitations recited in claims 1, 9 and 17. Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 9 and 17, along with each claim depending therefrom, are allowable over *Ishikawa*, and reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 2, 10 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ishikawa* as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of *Varma et al.* (US 6,507,831). The Examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of *Ishikawa* or to combine the teachings of *Ishikawa* or *Varma* to include the limitations recited in claims 2, 10 and 18. Applicants traverse the rejection and respectfully submit that the cited references fail to teach, show, or suggest the limitations recited in claims 2, 10 and 18.

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). As discussed above, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest a spell checking program which prompts a user to select assistance information

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associated with the correctly spelled word that is available for user review. Furthermore, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest assistance information selected from one or more root words, one or more spelling rules and one or more memorization clues.

Varma et al. discloses a method for processing a plurality of records to extract relevant information. As part of the process disclosed in *Varma et al.*, the records are processed to address spelling errors, duplicates, stemming and technical terms. The records are also processed to standardize word variants and delete insignificant words. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has mischaracterized *Varma et al.*'s teachings. Specifically, *Varma et al.* does not teach, show or suggest utilization of root words as assistance information for choosing a correct spelling of a word. The Examiner states that "stemming provides the radical of a word." However, Applicants are unable to find such basis in the sections of the reference cited by the Examiner. Applicants believe that, in the context of the process disclosed in *Varma et al.*, "stemming" refers to the repair records which originated from another repair record. Therefore, Applicants submit that "stemming," as used in the cited reference, does not provide the radical of a word.

Furthermore, *Varma et al.* does not teach, show or suggest utilization of memorization clues as assistance information for choosing a correct spelling of a word. The Examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified *Varma et al.* to include the memorization clues as the assistance information since the clues help quickly determine whether a record is relevant. Applicants submit that the Examiner has mischaracterized the *Varma et al.* weighted calculation process as an equivalent of memorization clues. As such, Applicants submit that the cited references, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the features recited in claims 2, 10 and 18. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 2, 10 and 18 are patentable over *Ishikawa*, and further in view of *Varma et al.* Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 4-5, 12-13 and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ishikawa* as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of *Rogson* (US Publication 2002/0010726 A1). The Examiner takes the position that it would have

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been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of *Ishikawa* or to combine the teachings of *Ishikawa* or *Rogson* to include the limitations recited in claims 4-5, 12-13 and 20-21. Applicants traverse the rejection and respectfully submit that the cited references fail to teach, show, or suggest the limitations recited in claims 4-5, 12-13 and 20-21.

As discussed above, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest a spell checking program which prompts a user to select assistance information associated with the correctly spelled word that is available for user review. Furthermore, regarding claim 5, 13 and 21, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest displaying a user exercise when a word has been misspelled a number of times.

Rogson discloses a method for updating a static update list utilized for automatic spelling corrections. In *Rogson*, when a misspelled word has been corrected a set number of times, the misspelled word and the associated correct word are added to a static update list, which is utilized to automatically correct a subsequent appearance of the misspelled word. *Rogson* discloses utilizing a correction count for tracking the number of time a misspelled word has been corrected. However, *Rogson* does not teach, show or suggest displaying a spelling exercise when the number of time a misspelled word has been corrected exceeds a threshold. As such, Applicants submit that the cited references, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the features recited in claims 4-5, 12-13 and 20-21. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 4-5, 12-13 and 20-21 are patentable over *Ishikawa*, and further in view of *Rogson*. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 6-7, 14-15, 22-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ishikawa* as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of *Walfish et al.* (US 6,047,300). As discussed above, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest a spell checking program which prompts a user to select assistance information associated with the correctly spelled word that is available for user review. *Walfish et al.* discloses a method for automatically correcting a misspelled word utilizing a set of replacement criteria. However, contrary to the Examiner's position, *Walfish et al.* does not teach, show or suggest displaying an explanation for correcting a spelling pattern because *Walfish et al.* discloses an automatic correction system which intentionally

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hides the replacement criteria from users. (*Walfish et al.*, Col. 3, lines 34-47). As such, Applicants submit that the cited references, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the features recited in claims 6-7, 14-15, 22-23. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 6-7, 14-15, 22-23 are patentable over *Ishikawa*, and further in view of *Walfish et al.* Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 8, 16 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ishikawa*. The Examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of *Ishikawa* to include the features recited in claims 8, 16 and 24. As discussed above, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest a spell checking program which prompts a user to select assistance information associated with the correctly spelled word that is available for user review. Moreover, contrary to the Examiner's position, even if the generating step and replacing step in *Ishikawa* produces recorded data, the data is not analyzed and no analysis is produced for a plurality of words. Furthermore, *Ishikawa* does not teach, show or suggest displaying analysis results comprising at least one of a misspelled words count, a mistyped words count and a percentage of correctly spelled words, as recited in claims 8, 16 and 24 as amended. As such, Applicants submit that the cited reference does not teach, show, or suggest the features recited in claims 8, 16 and 24. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims, 8, 16 and 24 are patentable over *Ishikawa*, and reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a spell checking program which displays assistance information as claimed. The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not

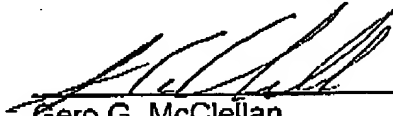
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necessary for a full and complete response to this office action. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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